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RANKING MEMBER, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

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LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROSA L. DELAURO

3RD DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for YMCA of North Middlesex County in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is YMCA of North Middlesex County, located at 99 Union Street, Middletown, CT 06457.

The \$2 million YMCA of North Middlesex County is requesting in funding would be used to increase their footprint to serve members of the community. The YMCA of North Middlesex County facility built in 1928 and expanded in 1972 is situated at the corner of Union and Crescent Street, at the end of Main Street, in downtown Middletown. This grand old building has never had any major improvements and requires significant rehabilitation to meet the community's current needs and preserve the Y for future generations. The South End renovation and expansion is the second phase addressing the most critical capital needs by improving the handicap accessibility and adaptability of the Y, supporting the Y's strategic vision to expand youth development programs, childcare, and community wellness services, and providing equitable access to programs and services that improve individual and family life.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because in a typical year, the Y serves over 10,000 people, and our goal is to serve over 12,000 people annually once the renovation is completed. A renovated and accessible Y will increase reach and access by providing expanded childcare and youth services, new chronic care programs and services for the elderly, and opportunities to expand community engagement and partnership. Middletown is the urban and economic hub of Middlesex County and has several significant strengths and social/economic challenges. The median household income in Middletown is \$65,572, with the lowest of \$18,304 within walking distance to the Y. While significant, the economic disparity within Middletown is more remarkable when comparing Middletown to the remaining towns of Middlesex County. The median household income in Middlesex County is \$85,898, with a poverty rate of 6.94%, while the poverty rate of Middletown is 12%. The proposed project is poised to align Y programs and services with Middletown's current and future demographics as well as continue to expand their reach throughout their entire Northern Middlesex County service area.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(4).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rosa L. DeLauro". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress